

Amphi Community News

A Publication of the Amphi Neighborhood Association

April 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome to Amphi Community News

Upcoming Events

April 21 7:00pm
Neighborhood Association
Meeting
240 W. Navajo



Officers

President
Rick Wicinski
293-1301
AmphiNArick@aol.com

Vice-President
Ken Meyer
360-9538

Treasurer
Ruth Barringer
888-2930

Garden Director
Wayne MacGowan
292-2582
wmacgowan@qbronline.com

Newsletter
Rebecca Beagen
791-0546
obeagen@hotmail.com

Welcome to the first edition of Amphi Community News. This newsletter is written and produced by the Amphi Neighborhood Association in conjunction with the City of Tucson's Department of Neighborhood Resources.

We are very excited to be able to bring news of the neighborhood to our residents and businesses. Our purpose is to provide information on neighborhood association meetings and events, to feature articles on our neighborhood residents, businesses and other organizations and to help connect residents and businesses with the resources they need to help them be more successful and to improve the quality of life for everyone.

In addition to the articles featured in this month's edition, we will also be focusing on individual residents in columns such as "Senior Spotlight" and "Student Focus". "Senior Spotlight" will feature one senior citizen each month and will focus on his or her activities, talents and views regarding the neighborhood. Similarly, "Student Focus" will showcase an outstanding student from one of our many

neighborhood schools. We are choosing to focus on the positive attributes of our youth as part of our belief that positive attention promotes positive behavior. One of our most important columns will be our "Volunteer Corner". This column will showcase one organization or special event each month that needs your support. Whether a donation of time, money or talent is needed, we will list the specific needs of the organization to help you decide where you would fit best.

We are currently seeking a volunteer to translate the newsletter into Spanish. If you can help, please contact Rebecca at 791-0546. Gracias.

If you would like to suggest a business, resident or non-profit organization to be featured please contact Rebecca Beagen at 791-0546 or email at obeagen@hotmail.com.

Important Numbers

Emergencies 911
Police Non-Emergencies 791-4467
Poison Hotline 626-6016

AZ Cart Retrieval 800-843-2278
Graffiti Abatement 624-7833
Pima Co. Animal Control 743-7550

Potholes 791-3191
Ward 3 Council Office 791-4711
Mayor's Office 791-4201

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From the Desk of the President

Hello Neighbor! My name is Rick Wicinski and I am serving as the current president of the Amphi Neighborhood Association.

The Amphi Neighborhood boundaries are Roger Rd on the north, First Ave on the east, Oracle Rd on the west and Ft. Lowell Rd on the south.

If you live or work within this area, you are considered an Amphi neighbor. Unlike a homeowners association which is for members only and would exclude all others in the area, a neighborhood association is open to and includes all

homeowners, renters, business owners and managers within the specified boundaries.

Our association was formed in 1999 to give us a voice with the City of Tucson, to guide our businesses and residents to the proper authorities or city departments they need and to help our neighborhood grow in a positive way. We believe our neighborhood has a good foundation of quality residents and we would like to bring those residents together to fulfill the wonderful potential that our neighborhood has.

I would like to personally invite

you to attend our next meeting on April 21st held at 240 W. Navajo. I look forward to meeting you and working together to find ways to improve our lives. You can make a difference and you will meet some wonderful people in the process. See you there!



News From Ward 3



Ramon Gaanderse

The Ward 3 office is committed to providing the highest level of service possible, and I am personally dedicated to uphold this standard.

It is an honor and privilege to work in the Council Office and to work as a liaison to the Amphi Neighborhood Association.

Considering that this is the first newsletter, I thought I would provide a quick background of myself. My name is Ramon Gaanderse (pronounced 'ganders'), and I come to the council office from the Tucson Chamber of Commerce.

I am a graduate from the University of Arizona with a media communications degree. Okay, enough about me. The question is how can I help you?

Acting as a liaison to the Amphi Neighborhood, my goal is to help make a better quality of life for you and your neighbors. Together I believe we can reach this goal and maintain this common objective. In order for us to work well together, it is important for the neighbors to communicate with one another and to the Ward 3 Council Office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 791-4711 or email me at ramon.gaanderse@tucsonaz.gov at anytime!

April Business Spotlight

by Rebecca Beagen

As we gear up for another scorching summer, our thoughts can't help but turn to our neighborhood ice cream shop for cool, sweet relief. Having served our community for more than 50 years, this perennial favorite continues to deliver treats and smiles to neighborhood children and adults alike.

The ice cream shop is one of Amphi Neighborhood's most successful businesses. Residents Joe and Mavis Albers purchased the store in 1958 and it remains in the family today, run primarily by the couple's two daughters, Michelle Vaccaro and Carrie Durham.



Circa 1960

"Growing up in the family business has been a fabulous experience," says Carrie, who handles facilities and equipment maintenance and custom ice cream cakes. "We received an education we couldn't have gotten anywhere else in the world."

Sister Michelle agrees. "This isn't like working for someone else. You learn true responsibility from running your own business." Michelle manages store personnel and day-to-day operations. "This is the first job most of our employees have held. We take very seriously the responsibility of teaching our staff important work habits that will benefit them throughout their whole lives."

Carrie and Michelle encourage neighborhood youth to **apply now** for after school and summertime work.

"Students must be 16 years of age and those under 18 must be enrolled in school," says Michelle.

This business has been a strong supporter of Amphi Neighborhood since the store opened. Mavis and both of her daughters graduated from Amphi High School, Mavis attending while the school was still on Prince Road where the Amphi Middle School is now located. Carrie is actively involved in the Mustang Tales reading program at Prince Elementary School and the store currently supports nine different athletic teams between Amphi Middle School and Amphi High School.

"We are so happy to be a part of this community," says Mavis.



March 2005-Mavis Albers, Michelle Vaccaro and Carrie Durham

"We know our business depends on our neighborhood patrons and we have always believed that to continue to be successful, we must give back in return."

When asked what positive changes they would like to see in the neighborhood, all three ladies agreed that more police patrol would be a welcome sight.

"We know our officers are overloaded right now," says Carrie. "Unfortunately, this places the less critical calls at a lower priority."

But overall, the Albers family is very pleased with the business and the community and is planning to be open for many years to come.

So say hello to Michelle and Carrie the next time you go through the drive-thru for your favorite frozen treat. Let them know you are from the neighborhood and that you support our local Amphi neighborhood businesses.

Down and Dirty with Wayne MacGowan

News from Amphi Acres Community Garden

Hey Neighbors! As you might or might not know, we have a community garden. Currently, there are 13 plots. They are on a first come first served basis. The cost for water is \$12 per month payable on the 1st of the month. Five plots are already spoken for. Now is the time to get planting. If you're interested, give me a call at 292-2582 to set up an appointment to meet at the garden. I'm usually there on the weekends around 10 am. Come on out and get dirty!



SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- ♦ Mr. Hooper's 5th/6th grade class and the young men at La Paloma for pulling weeds
- ♦ Ruth Barringer for donating the lovely citrus trees and other plants
- ♦ Ward 3 for donating use of the dumpster

Dated Material

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Department of Neighborhood Resources
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